

**Creative Work Opportunities for All:
NH's Statewide Forum on Careers in the Arts
for People with Disabilities**

What will the day include?

The two morning sessions will have us all together learning the answers to two immediate questions:

- 1) *How can I earn income without losing my benefits?*
- 2) *If that is possible, where do I go from here?*

We will have lunch together with time to network and discuss the morning workshops with our new friends and colleagues.

In the afternoon we will have a 90-minute session where you select the focus (see Agenda). Finally there will be a gathering to hear the success stories of people with disabilities who have been able to follow their hearts and have a career in the arts field of their choice.

Who should attend:

- Artists of all kinds (visual artists, musicians, actors, writers, fine artisans) with disabilities who want to begin or enhance their creative careers
- Students with a disability who are interested in a career in the arts
- Vocational rehabilitation professionals who want to learn more about creative career opportunities
- High school and college educators in art, music, theatre, dance, guidance counselors
- Cultural organization leaders who are interested in hiring artists with disabilities

Conference Agenda

8:30- 9:00am Registration & refreshments

9:00- 9:15am Welcome by Clyde Terry
CEO of Granite State Independent Living

9:15- 9:45am Keynote: Ryan Thomson
fiddler, author, educator, and entertainer

10:00-11:15am Session for All:
Balancing Benefits with Earned Income
How Can I Work Without Losing My Benefits

11:30-12:45am Session for All:
Polish Your Presentation: for Visual Artists, Musicians, Performers, Writers, Artisans
Developing your tool kit and Marketing 101

1:00- 1:45pm Lunch (incl. in registration fee)

2:00-3:30pm Your Choice: Pick 1

A: School-to-Work Transition
Taking your Creative Interests, Passion, and Skills to the Next Level

B: Considering Self-Employment?
Being realistic in self-assessment, market research, financial planning, and writing your Business Plan

C: Understanding Disabilities: Eliminating the Fear Factor of Accommodating People with Disabilities *Includes "Disability Etiquette", self-disclosure, and the reasonable aspect of reasonable accommodations*

3:45-4:30pm Session for All:
Testimonials from the Field: Career Artists
Panelists include artists with disabilities who work in NH and New England

4:30-5:00pm Wrap-up, Resources & Next Steps

Registration Form

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Select your preference for 2pm Workshop:

A B C

I am registering as an:

____ Artist

____ Employer

____ Educator

____ Vocational Specialist

____ Other (describe)

Accommodation Requests:

____ ASL interpreter

____ Braille

____ Large Print

____ Dietary needs

____ Other

Do you need Personal Care Attendant (PCA) services? ___ yes ___ no ___ I have my own (Registration fee waived for PCAs)

Fee: \$25.00 per person (A limited number of scholarships are available for registration and transportation. Call 603-228-4330.)

____ *Registration form and payment enclosed*

____ *I am mailing this form only, and will pay at the door by cash or credit card (MC or VISA only)*

Return this form by October 21st to:
VSA arts of NH, 44 So Main St, Concord, NH 03301

**Special Notice to Artists,
Musicians, and Artisans
Who Wish to Exhibit**

We encourage all artists to bring samples of your artwork in a "ready-to-show" format (i.e., framed with wire on back, or matted and shrink-wrapped.) All media are welcome.

You must call us in advance to reserve your display space.

Also plan to bring marketing materials to share with your peers. The Resource Room will be open all day.

**Planning Committee Members
and Guest Presenters:**

Yvonne Stahr- NH State Council on the Arts

Bobbie Herron- VSA arts of NH

Peter Darling- Granite State Independent Living

Tina Greco- NH Vocational Rehabilitation

Cheryl Killam- Governor's Commission on Disability

Jim Pontbriand- Social Security Administration

Rob Riley- Micro-Credit NH

Mike Rogers- Musician

Ryan Thomson- Musician

*Cheryl Hurst- Essence-of-Art, interactive retail store
and craft studio*

Sponsored by:

***The National Endowment for the Arts
The National Arts and Disability Center***

VSA arts

Social Security Administration

Granite State Independent Living

This information is available
electronically and in alternative formats.
Call 603-228-4330

VSA arts of New Hampshire
44 So. Main Street
Concord, NH 03301

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Photo by Geoff Forester
Courtesy of the NH Community Loan Fund

**Tuesday November 1, 2005
8:30am-5:00pm**

**Courtyard Marriott
Concord, NH**